

Maunalua Makai Watch

Maunalua Makai Watch is a new partnership among the Department of Land and Natural Resources and several non-governmental organizations including Mālama Maunalua, The Nature Conservancy, and Mālama Hawai'i. The goal of Makai Watch is to enhance the management of near-shore marine resources by providing community members an opportunity to become directly involved in this management.





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The program consists of the three main components:

- Awareness-raising and Outreach: Makai Watch trains community volunteers
 by providing information about the area's geography, marine ecology, regulations, best fishing practices, and other important topics. Outreach by volunteers help bay users become more knowledgeable of the local laws and best
 practices to conserve marine resources.
- **Biological and Human-use Monitoring:** Makai Watch volunteers learn how to collect information on human use of marine resources (fishing, kayaking, boating, etc) and on the biological condition of those resources. Data on biological resources such as abundance and diversity of fish and coral species are also collected and analyzed.
- Observation and Compliance: To reduce the disregard for laws and regulations
 governing marine resource use, volunteers are trained in observing, identifying, and documenting illegal activities. The State's conservation law enforcement agency (DOCARE) is a partner of Makai Watch and will benefit from the
 support from community volunteers in building strong cases.



What Do Maunalua Makai Watch Volunteers Do?

Community members are the backbone of any Makai Watch program. As a Makai Watch volunteer, you will become part of a community program working together to:

- Monitor and reduce pollution going into the bay
- Gather important information about human use of the bay
- Monitor the health of the bay's marine resources
- Learn and promote sustainable fishing practices
- Document violations and report them to DOCARE
- Participate in community cleanups and other events
- Educate Maunalua Bay users so they can be advocates of the bay, too

Volunteers contribute an average of at least four hours per month in these activities. Monitoring and outreach can be done at the bay and sometimes from your own home or neighborhood if you live along the shore and have clear vantage points.

What Will Volunteers Get Out of Maunalua Makai Watch?

Makai Watch volunteers gain a greater sense of community by working with other residents who are motivated to be stewards of the land and sea in their own backyards. You will learn a lot of helpful information and meet great people who can become resources for years to come. Also, at the end of the training, each volunteer will earn a Maunalua Makai Watch T-shirt.

Who Can Be a Maunalua Makai Watch Volunteer?

Anyone who is interested in restoring the health of Maunalua Bay is invited to become a volunteer. Those who live around Maunalua Bay would be prime candidates but residence in the area is not required. We are looking for people who are dependable, have good judgment, and like to communicate with others. There is no age limit, but the minimum age is 16.



Contacts:

Lance "Mahi" La Pierre (Maunalua Makai Watch Coordinator):

lapierre@hawaii.edu phone: 282-4611

Alyssa Miller (Mālama Maunalua): greenwaveproductions@gmail.com,

phone: 228-0027

Janice Staab (The Nature Conservancy): jstaab@tnc.org, phone: 587-6232

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